

Message Text

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46

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CPR-02 PER-05 SSC-01 EUR-25 NEA-10

SCI-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 EA-11

AID-20 IO-14 CU-04 EB-11 NSF-04 INT-08 OMB-01 COME-00

TRSE-00 SCEM-02 OPIC-12 XMB-07 SAB-01 SIL-01 LAB-06

DRC-01 /248 W

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R 081700Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

UNCLAS DAKAR 0104

EO 11652N/A

TAGS: PFOR US SG

SUBJ: PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS BY AMBASSADOR AGGREY

REF: DAKAR 67

BEGIN SUMMARY: AMBASSADOR AGGREY PRESENTED CREDENTIALS TO PRESIDENT SENGHOR JANUARY 7 IN CORDIAL ATMOSPHERE. SENGHOR IN HIS PUBLIC REMARKS AND IN CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR STRESSED SENEGALESE RECEPTIVITY TO AND HOPES FOR US PRIVATE INVESTMENT AND INCREASED TECHNICAL EXCHANGE WITH US. IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION SENGHOR ALSO PRAISED US INITIATIVES ON MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM AND REITERATED HIS READINESS TO USE HIS GOOD RELATIONS WITH ARABS TO ASSIST US EFFORTS. CREDENTIALS CEREMONY GIVEN GOOD MEDIA COVERAGE. END SUMMARY.

1. SHORTLY AFTER NOON JANUARY 7, AMBASSADOR PRESENTED CREDENTIALS TO PRESIDENT SENGHOR IN SHORT BUT COLORFUL CEREMONY AT PRESIDENTIAL PALACE. AFTER REVIEWING HONOR GUARD, AMBASSADOR LED INTO PALACE ALONG WITH

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PRINCIPAL EMBASSY AND OTHER US AGENCY OFFICERS WHO ACCOMPANIED HIM.

CEREMONY TOOK PLACE IN AUDIENCE ROOM ON SECOND FLOOR ATTENDED BY FOREIGN MINISTER ASSANE SECK, OFFICIALS OF PRESIDENCY, PRESS PHOTOGRAPHERS, RADIO AND TELEVISION, AND WAS FOCUSED ON AMBASSADOR'S REMARKS AND PRESIDENT SENGHOR'S RESPONSE.

2. HIGHLIGHTS OF AMBASSADOR'S REMARKS AND FRENCH TEXT OF SENGHOR'S SPEECH REPORTED IN REFTEL. SENGHOR NOTED HE RECEIVED AMBASSADOR'S LETTERS WITH JOY AND THAT HE HAD KNOWN HIM FOR TWENTY YEARS. HE WENT ON TO PRAISE AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL PROWESS, AMERICAN "SENSE OF DEMOCRACY" AND AMERICAN "SENSE OF MORAL EQUALITY" WHICH CAUSED US TO TREAT A SMALL NATION LIKE SENEGAL ON EQUAL BASIS AND RESPECT ITS VIEWS EVEN WHEN THESE DIFFERED WITH AMERICAN VIEWS. IN ADDITION PRESIDENT PRAISED DETENTE WITH USSR AND PRC INAUGURATED BY US; EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR AMERICAN DROUGHT AID; UNDERLINED IMPORTANCE OF NUMBER OF SENEGALESE STUDENTS IN US AND STRESSED DYNAMISM OF US-SENEGALESE ECONOMIC COOPERATION, ADDING HOPE THAT US INVESTMENT WOULD BEAT ALL RECORDS DURING COURSE OF THE PRESENT FOUR YEAR PLAN. PRESIDENT SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED EXISTING INTEREST OF US INVESTORS IN PETROLEUM EXPLORATION. SENEGAL'S GIANT REFINERY PROJECT, IRON ORE RESOURCES IN EASTERN REGION AND CUSTOMS FREE INDUSTRIAL ZONE AT DAKAR PORT.

3. AFTER COMPLETING REMARKS AND BEING INTRODUCED TO AMBASSADOR'S STAFF, PRESIDENT SENGHOR RETIRED TO HIS PRIVATE SITTING ROOM WITH AMBASSADOR AGGREY FOR A CONVERSATION WHICH LASTED ABOUT FIFTEEN MINUTES. DURING MEETING, IN WHICH FONMIN SECK PARTICIPATED, SENGHOR REITERATED HIS DESIRE FOR MORE US PRIVATE INVESTMENT AND INCREASED SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL EXCHANGE. HE ALLUDED TO SENEGALESE-IRANIAN-NIGERIAN PETROLEUM REFINERY PROJECT WHICH HE HOPED COULD BE RELATED TO AMERICAN PRIVATE INTERESTS. ALSO MENTIONED OFFSHORE OIL STRIKE BY FRANCO-DUTCH COMPANY, INDICATING HE HAD THREATENED EUROPEANS WITH TURNING CONCESSION OVER TO AMERICANS IF THEY DID NOT MOVE MORE RAPIDLY TOWARD EXPLOITATION.

4. ON TECHNICAL EXCHANGES, SENGHOR SAID ONLY WORTHWHILE SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE ON SAHEL PROBLEMS WOULD BE ONE HELD IN AFRICA AND SPEARHEADED BY USG. HE HOPED WE WOULD SOON HAVE NEWS OF POSSIBLE DATES FOR MEETING. NOT ONLY WEATHER MODIFICATION, ON WHICH SAHEL LEADERS WOULD COUNT

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INCREASINGLY, BUT ESPECIALLY VAST BENEFITS OF ERTS SATELLITE WERE AMONG ACHIEVEMENTS OF US TECHNOLOGY HE HOPED COULD INCREASINGLY BE TURNED TO AFRICA'S BENEFIT.

5. AMBASSADOR AGGREY TOLD PRESIDENT USG WELCOMED HIS REASSURANCE OF GOS DESIRE FOR PRIVATE US INVESTMENT. DIRECTOR OF EXIM BANK WOULD BE IN DAKAR MEETING WITH GOS OFFICIALS THIS WEEK AND REPS SEVERAL US COMPANIES

SCHEDULED FOR VISITS TO SENEGAL EARLY THIS YEAR.
HE AGREED THAT QUESTIONS OF SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION,
INCLUDING NOAA'S PARTICIPATION IN THE INTERNATIONAL GATE
PROJECT, SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN GREATER DETAIL AT ANOTHER
MEETING.

6. TURNING TO POLITICAL ISSUES, SENGHOR SAID HE NOW
OPTIMISTIC ABOUT MIDDLE EAST SITUATION. CARRYING OUT
PRESIDENT NIXON'S POLICIES, SECRETARY KISSINGER HAD
BROUGHT PARTIES TOGETHER AS PERHAPS ONLY HE COULD.
SENEGAL WAS CERTAINLY NOT ANTI-ISRAEL AS HE HAD SOUGHT TO
MAKE CLEAR TO DEPT THROUGH AMBASSADOR COUBARY'S
RECENT DEMARCHES AND IN BOURGUIBA-SENGHOR COMMUNIQUE,
WHICH HE NOTED, FOREIGN MINISTER SECK FELT MAY HAVE LEANED
TOO MUCH IN DIRECTION OF ISRAEL'S RIGHTS. BUT HE FELT HE
HAD VERY GOOD RELATIONS WITH SADAT AND A CHANNEL THROUGH PLO
OFFICE IN DAKAR TO ARAFAT WHICH HE HAD USED TO ENCOURAGE
ARAB ACCEPTANCE OF TALKS LEADING TO NEGOTIATION. HE
STOOD READY TO HELP US EFFORTS FOR PEACE IN MIDDLE EAST IN
ANY DISCREET WAY HIS GOOD RELATIONS WITH REASONABLE ARABS
MIGHT PERMIT.

7. SENGHOR SAID HE WOULD CONVOKE AMBASSADOR FOR LONGER
DISCUSSION INTERNATIONAL ISSUES AT LATER DATE. REST OF
DISCUSSION CENTERED ON NEWS OF HIS PERSONAL FRIENDS IN US
AND LATEST DIRECTIONS POETRY BY LACK AMERICAN WRITERS.
AMBASSADOR FOUND PRESIDENT IN EXCELLENT HEALTH AND HUMOR,
AND HE SPOKE WITH APPARENT SINCERITY AS HE STRESSED DESIRE
TO MAINTAIN AND BROADEN GOOD BILATERAL RELATIONS.

8. ENTIRE CEREMONY WAS CARRIED ON RADIO AT LEAST TWICE
AND WILL BE SHOWN ON EVENING TELEVISION NEWS TONIGHT.
AMBASSADOR'S PHOTO AND ARTICLE APPEARED ON FRONT PAGE
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LE SOLEIL ALONG WITH PHOTO OF JAPANESE AMBASSADOR WHO ALSO
PRESENTED CREDENTIALS YESTERDAY.
AGGREY

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TAGS: PFOR, US, SG, (AGGREY, O RUDOLPH)
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